

641—110.3(135) Responsibilities of the center.

110.3(1) The center for rural health and primary care shall provide technical planning assistance to rural communities and counties exploring innovative means of delivering rural health services through community health services assessment, planning, and implementation, including but not limited to hospital conversions, cooperative agreements among hospitals, physician and health practitioner support, recruitment and retention of primary health care providers, public health services, emergency medical services, medical assistance facilities, rural health care clinics, and alternative means which may be included in the long-term community health services assessment and developmental plan.

110.3(2) The center for rural health and primary care shall encourage collaborative efforts of the local boards of health, hospital governing boards, and other public and private entities located in rural communities to adopt a long-term community health services assessment and developmental plan.

110.3(3) The center for rural health and primary care shall provide technical assistance to assist rural communities in improving Medicare reimbursements or establishing additional sources of funding through initiatives such as rural health clinics, distinct part skilled nursing facility beds, and the swing-bed program.

110.3(4) The center for rural health and primary care shall coordinate services to provide research for the following:

- a.* Examination of the prevalence of rural occupational health injuries in the state.
- b.* Assessment of training and continuing education available through local hospitals and others relating to diagnosis and treatment of diseases associated with rural occupational health hazards.
- c.* Determination of continuing education support necessary for rural health practitioners to diagnose and treat illnesses caused by exposure to rural occupational health hazards.
- d.* Determination of the types of actions that can help prevent agricultural accidents, surveillance and reporting of disabilities suffered by persons engaged in agricultural-related injuries and diseases in the state.
- e.* Identifying causal factors associated with agricultural-related injuries and diseases and indicating the effectiveness of intervention programs designed to reduce injuries and diseases.

110.3(5) The center for rural health and primary care shall cooperate with the center for agricultural health and safety, the center for health effects of environmental contamination and the department of agriculture and land stewardship to coordinate programs to the extent practicable.

110.3(6) The center for rural health and primary care shall administer grants for farm safety education efforts directed to rural families for the purpose of preventing farm-related injuries to children.

110.3(7) The center for rural health and primary care shall administer the PRIMECARRE.

- a.* PRIMECARRE shall include the following:
 - (1) A health care workforce and community support grant program.
 - (2) A primary care provider loan repayment program.
- b.* PRIMECARRE shall promote and accommodate local creativity in efforts to recruit and retain health care professionals to provide services in the locality. The focus shall be on developing health care provider recruitment and retention programs.
- c.* The center for rural health and primary care may enter into an agreement with the college student aid commission for the administration of the center's grant and loan repayment program.

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